

PATENT
450106-02134

B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Tetsujiro KONDO et al. Notice of Allowance
Dated: 04/07/2005
Serial No. : 09/586,205 Confirmation No. 6105
For : ENCODING APPARATUS, ENCODING METHOD,
DECODING APPARATUS, DECODING METHOD,
AND RECORD MEDIUM
Filed : June 2, 2000
Examiner : Duy M. DANG
Art Unit : 2621

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope
addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O.
Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 29, 2005

Darren M. Simon, Reg. No. 47,946

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

April 29, 2005

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

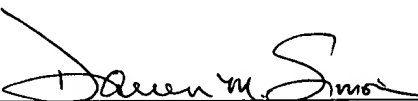
Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed April 7, 2005. To the extent the Examiner's

Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

By 

Darren M. Simon
Reg. No. 47,946
(212) 588-0800